

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-9 (Canceled).

10. (Currently amended) A corrosion-resistant hot dip plated steel material having a particular surface smoothness, comprising:

at least one section having a surface; and

a plated layer provided on the surface, the plated layer containing Al of at least 4% in mass and comprising an Al phase and an Al-type intermetallic compound, wherein the intermetallic compound has a melting point of at least 600° C and lattice constants in the range of about 3 Å to 5 Å, and wherein the intermetallic compound comprises about 0.001% to 0.5% by mass of the plated layer. ~~in an Al phase.~~

11. (Previously presented) The steel material according to claim 10, wherein the plated layer contains Al of about 4% to 20% and Mg of about 1% to 10% in mass, with the balance consisting of Zn and unavoidable impurities.

12. (Previously presented) The steel material according to claim 10, wherein the plated layer contains Al of about 4% to 20%, Mg of about 1% to 10% and Si of about 0.001% to 2% in mass, with the balance consisting of Zn and unavoidable impurities.

Claims 13 and 14 (Canceled).

15. (Previously presented) The steel material according to claim 10, wherein the intermetallic compound is at least one of an Ni-Al-type intermetallic compound, a Ti-Al-type intermetallic compound, a Zr-Al-type intermetallic compound, and an Sr-Al-type intermetallic compound.

16. (Previously presented) The steel material according to claim 10, wherein the intermetallic compound is at least one of TiAl_3 , NiAl_3 , Co_2Al_9 , $\text{Co}_4\text{Al}_{13}$, CrAl_4 , CrAl_7 , $\text{Cr}_2\text{Al}_{11}$, $\text{Mn}_4\text{Al}_{11}$, MnAl_6 , $\text{Al}_{11}\text{Ce}_3$, CeZn_2Al_2 , Al_9Ir_2 , $\text{Al}_{11}\text{La}_3$, Al_{12}Mo , NbAl_3 , Al_2Se_3 , TaAl_3 , ZrAl_3 , Zr_2ZnAl_3 , Al_2Ca , $\text{Ti}_7\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_{12}$, FeNiAl_9 , $\text{Fe}_3\text{NiAl}_{10}$, TiAl_2 , TiAl , Ni_2Al_3 , NiAl , and SrAl_4 .

17. (Previously presented) The steel material according to claim 16, wherein the Ti-Al-type intermetallic compound is $\text{Ti}(\text{Al}_{1-x}\text{Si}_x)_3$.

18. (Previously presented) A corrosion-resistant hot dip plated steel material having a particular surface smoothness, comprising:

at least one section including a surface; and

a plated layer provided on the surface, the plated layer including Al of at least 4% in mass, and an Al-type intermetallic compound abutting on an Al phase.

19. (Previously presented) The steel material according to claim 18, wherein the plated layer contains Al of about 4% to 20% and Mg of about 1% to 10% in mass, with the balance consisting of Zn and unavoidable impurities.

20. (Previously presented) The steel material according to claim 18, wherein the plated layer contains Al of about 4% to 20%, Mg of about 1% to 10% and Si of about 0.001% to 2% in mass, with the balance consisting of Zn and unavoidable impurities.

21. (Previously presented) The steel material according to claim 18, wherein the intermetallic compound has a melting point of at least 600°C and about 0.001% to 0.5% in mass.

22. (New) The steel material according to claim 18, wherein at least one of lattice constants of the intermetallic compound is in a range from about 3 Å to 5 Å.

23. (Previously presented) The steel material according to claim 18, wherein the intermetallic compound is at least one of an Ni-Al-type intermetallic compound, a Ti-Al-type intermetallic compound, a Zr-Al-type intermetallic compound, and an Sr-Al-type intermetallic compound.

24. (Previously presented) The steel material according to claim 18, wherein the intermetallic compound is at least one of TiAl_3 , NiAl_3 , Co_2Al_9 , $\text{Co}_4\text{Al}_{13}$, CrAl_4 , CrAl_7 , $\text{Cr}_2\text{Al}_{11}$, $\text{Mn}_4\text{Al}_{11}$, MnAl_6 , $\text{Al}_{11}\text{Ce}_3$, CeZn_2Al_2 , Al_9Ir_2 , $\text{Al}_{11}\text{La}_3$, Al_{12}Mo , NbAl_3 , Al_2Se_3 , TaAl_3 , ZrAl_3 , Zr_2ZnAl_3 , Al_2Ca , $\text{Ti}_7\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_{12}$, FeNiAl_9 , $\text{Fe}_3\text{NiAl}_{10}$, TiAl_2 , TiAl , Ni_2Al_3 , NiAl , and SrAl_4 .

25. (Previously presented) The steel material according to claim 24, wherein the Ti-Al-type intermetallic compound is $\text{Ti}(\text{Al}_{1-x}\text{Si}_x)_3$.

26. (New) A corrosion-resistant hot dip plated steel material having a particular surface smoothness, comprising:

at least one section having a surface; and

a plated layer provided on the surface, the plated layer containing Al of at least 4% in mass and comprising an Al phase and an Al-type intermetallic compound, wherein the intermetallic compound is limited to be in a particular position abutting on an Al phase, and acts as a nucleation nucleus, the intermetallic compound having a melting point of at least 600° C and lattice constants in the range of about 3Å to 5Å, the intermetallic compound being about 0.001% to 0.5% by mass of the plated layer.